



Grade 8 Social Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 8

SCHOOL YEAR: 2021-2022

TEACHER: Mr Andrew Hogenson

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This Social Studies course is designed to ensure the students understand the cultural exchange and histories of the regions of the eastern hemisphere. After taking this course students will be able to read, understand, and identify through primary and secondary sources the histories of the Americas, as well as name important characters, places, and events that helped create the trade networks and cultural exchanges that make this region the economic powerhouse it is today. Students will also familiarize themselves with the academic vocabulary necessary to understand and discuss social studies.

Barring some exceptions for holidays, exams, and shortened weeks, classes will follow a standardized weekly structure. The first day of the week will begin with an in-class discussion of that week's reading. Students will need to read the material ahead of time in order to contribute to this discussion. The next class period will be the slideshow and teacher presentation of the same material. At the end of the presentation there is a slide containing 5-10 questions. If students discussed all the points of the presentation during their discussion they have demonstrated content knowledge. Students will not be required to write the answers to the questions and everyone in the class will receive 100% provided they remember to push the submit button on Google Classroom. If students didn't prepare adequately for and left out important information in their discussion they will be assigned the questions.

After the discussion and lecture are completed the remainder of the week will be spent on some project including but not limited to: research essays, in-class presentations, Socratic seminars, debates, and quizzes. The instructions will be provided on the third day with the instructions posted to Google Classroom. The remainder of the week will be spent working on these projects. When research is necessary students will be instructed to bring laptops on Google Classroom.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies
- Describe how a text presents information
- Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
- Read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

ASSESSMENT:

There will be a combination of formative and summative examinations for this course. These will include but not be limited to; standardized tests, daily coursework, in-class discussion, written reports, and presentations. Quizzes will generally be short-answer and students will only be required to answer a certain percentage of questions. The exact numbers will be written on the quizzes themselves. Expect 2-4 quizzes per quarter.

For quarterly exams quarters 1 and 3 will have a normal examination. Quarters 2 and 4 will replace this examination with a written report on a topic of the students' choice to be determined later. Details on how to choose a topic, sources, write citations, etc, will be given when it comes time to write these examinations.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCES

myWorld Interactive World Geography: Western Hemisphere Hemisphere
Gregory H Chu et al
ISBN-10: 0-328-96493-X
ISBN-13: 978-0-328-96493-2

Access to a laptop or tablet. Students will be told when to bring them both in class and via Google Classroom.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please see Google Classroom for more information

Google Classroom Codes:

Catherine of Siena: nows7qy

Agnes of Montepulciano: gbzkrmv

Copying (plagiarism) is a serious offense and a form of theft. In certain cases, it is also a criminal offense. It is defined as taking words, phrasing, sentence structure, or any other element of the expression of another person's ideas, and using them as if they were your own. Plagiarism is a violation of another person's rights, whether the material stolen is great or small – it is not a matter of degree or intent. Plagiarism has serious consequences.

Any act of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment

SUBJECT: Gr.8 Social Studies **1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT**

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 9th to 13th 3 Days of Class <i>11 - First Day / Orientation Day</i> <i>?? - Opening Mass</i>	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rules● On History● Geography overview
Week 2 Aug 16th to 20th	1.1 Geography Basics <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reading a map● Different types of terrain● Interaction between terrain and human settlement
Week 3 Aug 23rd to 27th	1.2 Our Planet, Earth <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Plate tectonics● Interaction between geology and natural resources● Disasters and opportunities caused
Week 4 Aug 30th to 3rd	1.3 Climates and Ecosystems <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Biomes● Types of ecosystems● Challenges for people living in these ecosystems
Week 5 Sep 6th to 10th	1.4 People and the Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Natural resources● Human impact on the environment● Migrations: their causes and effects 1.5 Culture and Society <ul style="list-style-type: none">● What is a culture?● Class structures● Cultural diffusion and effects of cultural interaction
Week 6 Sep 13th to 17th FYI – Pre-Exam Days	1.6 Economics Basics <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Supply and demand● Producers and consumers● Types of economies
Week 7 Sep 20th to 24th No Classes <i>20-21 - Moon Festival</i>	No Classes

<i>22-24 – Teacher’s Conference</i>	
Week 8 Sep 27 th to Oct 1 st	1.7 Trade and Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative advantage • Domestic vs international trade • Trade and national economic growth
Week 9 Oct 4 th to 8 th 3 Days of Class <i>7-8 – Q1 Exams</i>	Exam Q1

2nd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 11 th to 15 th 4 Days of Class <i>11 – Double 10 Holiday</i>	2.1 North American Indian Culture Regions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal migration • Geography & cultural differences • Construction & differences between early American & European civilizations
Week 2 (11) Oct 18 th to 22 nd	2.2 Three American Indian Cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pueblo Cultures • Mississippian Cultures • The Iroquois Confederacy Synthesis: Native American political systems
Week 3 (12) Oct 25 th to 29 th	2.3 European Colonization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic reasons for migration • Religious reasons for migration • European politics in the Americas
Week 4 (13) Nov 1 st to 5 th	2.4 Building Nations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The American Revolution • Development & Expansion in the US • Development & Expansion in Canada
Week 5 (14) Nov 8 th to 12 th	2.4 Continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key events in US and Canadian History • Compare and contrast national and economic growth • Examination of emergent cultures Choose topic and write question outline for Research Paper 1
Week 6 (15) Nov 15 th to 19 th	2.5 Living in the United States and Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural resources • Immigration & internal migration • Cultural innovation Finish answer outline for Research Paper 1
Week 7 (16) Nov 22 nd to 26 th <i>?? - YSC Contest</i>	2.6 The United States and Canada at Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High & low skilled jobs • Capitalism • International Trade Finish final outline and reference section for Research Paper 1
Week 8 (17) Nov 29 th to Dec 3 rd FYI – Pre-Exam Days	2.7 Challenges facing the United States and Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income inequality • Globalization • Climate Change Turn in rough draft of Research Paper 1
Week 9 (18) Dec 6 th to 10 th	2.7 Continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada & the US on the world stage

8 - Foundation Day Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic vs international needs of the nations • Maintaining authority
Week 10 (19) Dec 13th to 17th 3 Days of Class <i>16-17 – Q2 Exams</i>	Submit Research Paper 1
Dec 20th to Jan 2nd	Christmas Break

3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (20) Jan 4th to 7th 4 Days of Class <i>3 ~ Record Day</i> <i>5 ~ Q3 Begins</i>	3.1 The Olmec and Maya Civilizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early agriculture • Early writing • Early religion
Week 2 (21) Jan 10th to 14th	3.2 Aztec Civilizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography of Mexico • Aztec government • Aztec religion
Week 3 (22) Jan 17th to 21st	3.3 Spanish Colonization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conquistadors • Colonial Government • The Columbian Exchange
Week 4 (23) Jan 24th to 28th	3.4 Independence for Mexico and Central America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government & social instability • Income inequality • The Banana Republics
Feb 29th to 6th	Chinese New Year
Week 5 (24) Feb 7th to 11th	3.5 History of the Caribbean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Cultures • Colonization & plantation slavery • The Haitian Revolution • New Governments in the Caribbean
Week 6 (25) Feb 14th to 18th	3.6 Living in Mexico and Central America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • Cultural diffusion • Art, food, and religion
Week 7 (26) Feb 21st to 25th	3.7 Mexico and Central America at Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural resources • The Banana Republics • Free Trade
Week 8 (27) Feb 28th to 4th 4 Days of Class <i>28 – 228 Memorial Day Holiday</i> FYI – Mass + Pre-Exam Days	3.8 The Caribbean Today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural disasters • Ethnic and linguistic contrasts • Economic challenges
Week 9 (28) March 7th to 11th	3.9 Challenges Facing Middle America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural disasters • Overfarming • Infrastructure & education

Week 10 (29) March 14th to 18th 4 Days of Class <i>18 – Q3 Exams</i>	Exam Q3
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4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (30) March 21st to 25th 4 Days of Class <i>21 – Q3 Exams</i>	4.1 Early South American Cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Andes Mountains • Early agriculture • Nomadic cultures
Week 2 (31) March 28th to Apr 1st	4.2 Incan Civilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incan government • Incan technology • Incan culture
Week 3 (32) Apr 4th to 8th 3 Days of Class <i>4-5 ~ Tomb Sweeping holiday</i>	4.3 European Colonization of South America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spain and Portugal • Conquistadors • Colonial culture
Apr 9th to 17th	Easter Break
Week 4 (33) Apr 18th to 22nd	4.4 Independence for South America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Bolivar • Income inequality & unfair government • US coups Choose topic and write question outline for Research Paper 2
Week 5 (34) Apr 25th to 29th FYI – Pre-Exam Days	4.5 Living in South America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnic groups and nations • Music and culture Finish answer outline for Research Paper 2
Week 6 (35) May 2nd to 6th	4.6 South America at Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural resources • Infrastructure Finish final outline and reference section for Research Paper 2
Week 7 (36) May 9th to 13th	4.7 Challenges Facing South America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political corruption • Ecological damage • Wealth inequality Turn in First Draft of Research Paper 2
Week 8 (37) May 16th to 20th <i>20 – Q4 Exams</i>	Submit Research Paper 2
Week 9 (38) May 23rd to 27th <i>23 – Q4 Exams</i>	Graduation Preparation
Week 10 (39) May 30th to 2nd 4 Days at School <i>3 ~ Dragon Boat Festival</i>	Graduation